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HOUSE MEMORIAL 113

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Brian F. Egolf

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CITY OF SANTA FE TO MITIGATE THE NEGATIVE EFFECT
OF LOCATING A LARGE ELECTRICAL BOX IN THE HISTORIC SANTA FE
PLAZA.

WHEREAS, in 1957, the city of Santa Fe passed the Historic
Styles Ordinance, protecting the traditional appearance of the
plaza and the city's oldest neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe is recognized throughout the world for
its distinctive style and architecture; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe is known as the "city different" and its
name is synonymous with art; and

WHEREAS, with more than two hundred galleries and several
major museums featuring all artistic media and genres, from
centuries-old treasures to all manner of contemporary works,
Santa Fe is a world-class art destination; and

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1 WHEREAS, Santa Fe is preparing to celebrate the city's
2 four hundredth anniversary in 2009 and 2010; and

3 WHEREAS, the Santa Fe plaza is a registered national
4 historic landmark; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2009, the city of Santa Fe caused to be
6 constructed on the plaza a seven-foot tall, seven-foot wide and
7 two-foot thick electrical equipment box painted an
8 institutional gray; and

9 WHEREAS, the box is part of a renovation project that also
10 brought a new irrigation system and power upgrade to the plaza
11 along with more flagstone; and

12 WHEREAS, the electrical equipment box is completely out of
13 character for its surroundings and reminds some Santa Feans of
14 the *2001: A Space Odyssey* monolith; and

15 WHEREAS, according to *The Santa Fe New Mexican*, tourists
16 have begun to comment on the inappropriateness of the big gray
17 box; and

18 WHEREAS, city officials have expressed a willingness to
19 look at other options to meet safety, aesthetic and historic
20 requirements;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the city of
23 Santa Fe be requested to work with the state historic
24 preservation office and other interested parties to resolve
25 issues related to the seven-foot by seven-foot by two-foot gray

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electrical box on the Santa Fe plaza; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the mayor of Santa Fe, the Santa Fe city council and the state historic preservation officer.